

Appl. No.: 10/630,156
Amtd. Dated: 05/11/2007
Off. Act. Dated: 04/19/2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original): A fuel cell assembly comprising:
a bipolar separator plate having a first side and a second side;
a membrane electrode assembly attached to said first side;
independently-acting compliant members attached to said second side; and
a conductive laminar electrical contact attached to said independently acting compliant members.

2. (original): The fuel cell assembly according to claim 1, additionally comprising apertures in said conductive laminar electrical contact.

3. (previously presented): The fuel cell assembly according to claim 2, additionally comprising a second conductive laminar electrical contact attached to a subset of said independently acting compliant members.

4. (previously presented): The fuel cell assembly according to claim 3, additionally comprising a third laminar electrical contact attached to a subset of said independently acting compliant members.

5. (original): The fuel cell assembly according to claim 2 wherein said independently acting compliant members comprise springs.

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6. (original): The fuel cell assembly according to claim 5,
wherein said laminar electrical contacts are formed into an array having a length,
wherein said membrane electrode assembly has a length, and
wherein said length of said array is approximately equal to said length of said
membrane electrode assembly.

7. (original): The fuel cell assembly according to claim 5
wherein said laminar electrical contacts are formed into an array having a width,
wherein said membrane electrode assembly has a width, and
wherein said width of said array is approximately equal to said width of said
membrane electrode assembly.

8. (original): The fuel cell assembly according to claim 6
wherein said laminar electrical contacts are formed into an array having a width,
wherein said membrane electrode assembly has a width, and
wherein said width of said array is approximately equal to said width of said
membrane electrode assembly.

9. (original): A fuel cell stack comprised of
a first assembly according to claim 1 and
a second assembly according to claim 1,
wherein the laminar electrical contact of said first assembly is in electrical contact
with the membrane electrode assembly of said second assembly.

Claims 10-11 (cancelled)

12. (original): A method for maintaining electrical contact between a bipolar
separator plate and a membrane electrode assembly in a fuel cell stack comprising

placing independently acting compliant members and a laminar electrical contact between said bipolar separator plate and said membrane electrode assembly.

13. (original): A fuel cell module comprising:
a bipolar separator plate with a first side and a second side;
a membrane electrode assembly attached to said first side;
flexible means for making electrical contact attached to said second side; and
a laminar electrical contact attached to said flexible means.

14. (previously presented): The fuel cell module according to claim 13, additionally comprising a second laminar electrical contact attached to a subset of said flexible means.

15. (previously presented): The fuel cell module according to claim 14, additionally comprising a third laminar electrical contact attached to a subset of said flexible means.

16. (previously presented): The fuel cell module according to claim 13, additionally comprising apertures in said laminar electrical contact.

17. (original): A fuel cell stack comprised of
a first module according to claim 13, and
a second module according to claim 13,
wherein the laminar electrical contact of said first module is pressed by said flexible means into electrical contact with the membrane electrode assembly of said second module.

18. (original): A fuel cell stack comprised of

a first module according to claim 14, and
a second module according to claim 14,
wherein the laminar electrical contacts of said first module are pressed by said flexible means into electrical contact with the membrane electrode assembly of said second module.

19. (previously presented): A fuel cell stack comprised of
a first module, comprising:
a bipolar separator plate with a first side and a second side;
a membrane electrode assembly attached to said first side;
flexible means for making electrical contact attached to said second side;
a laminar electrical contact attached to said flexible means;
a second laminar electrical contact attached to a subset of said flexible means; and
a third laminar electrical contact attached to a subset of said flexible means; and
a second module, comprising:
a bipolar separator plate with a first side and a second side;
a membrane electrode assembly attached to said first side;
flexible means for making electrical contact attached to said second side;
a laminar electrical contact attached to said flexible means;
wherein said laminar electrical contact comprises apertures;
wherein the laminar electrical contacts of said first module are pressed by said flexible means into electrical contact with the membrane electrode assembly of said second module.

20. (previously presented): A fuel cell stack comprised of
a first module according to claim 16, and

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a second module according to claim 16,

wherein the laminar electrical contact of said first module is pressed by said flexible means into electrical contact with the membrane electrode assembly of said second module.

21. (cancelled)